(iv) Pilotage
(v) Captive facilities for port based industries.

(e) The steps mooted are:

(i) Modernisation of equipment consistent with emerging cargo mix.
(ii) Changes in operating systems and extension of better facilities to trade.
(iii) Computerisation.
(iv) Reduction in number of labour and employees.

V.R.S. for Port and Dock Workers

1678. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new VRS for port and dock workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided the number of workforce to be trimmed;

(d) if so, the details thereof, port-wise; and

(e) the financial resources required for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Voluntary Retirement Scheme for employees and workers was in existence in 1991 in Ports and Dock Labour Boards. The Government has recently requested all Major Ports and Dock Labour Boards to keep this Scheme open till 31.3.2001. The details of this Voluntary Retirement Scheme are as under:—

I. An employee who has completed 10 years' of service or completed 40 years of age may seek voluntary retirement by a written request.

II. The Port Trusts and Dock Labour Boards will have the right not to grant voluntary retirement for reasons to be recorded in writing.

III. The terminal payments available to an employee who seeks voluntary retirement would be:—

(i) the balance in his Provident Fund Account payable as per the GPF/CPF regulations applicable to him;

(ii) cash equivalent of accumulated earned leave as per the rules of the Port Trust/Dock Labour Board;

(iii) gratuity as per Gratuity Act or the gratuity scheme applicable to the employee;

(iv) one month's/three months' notice pay (as per the conditions of service applicable to him);

(v) pension as per the rules of the Port Trust/Dock Labour Board.

(c) and (d) It is not possible to provide specific figures for the workers/employees who will take benefit under this Scheme as the same depends on the submission of request by the eligible workers and employees subject to acceptance of the same by the Port/Dock Labour Board.

(e) The financial resources required would depend on the employees opting for Voluntary Retirement Scheme as well as the length of service/scale of pay, etc. of these employees. The Ports and Dock Labour Boards will then make their own arrangements for the disbursement of retirement benefits to such employees.